

05-01-18

Author's Intent: Many times a change is made in one area of the Handbook, but another related area is not changed. This causes confusion among the membership, judges, show management and staff. This change would allow us to clear up those references and make a timely correction. Changing "officers" to the "Executive Committee" is an update to be consistent with current NRHA Bylaws. (NRHA Staff)

A. RULE CHANGE PROCEDURES

Section 4. In the best interest of the NRHA and its members, the Executive Committee officers of the Association are is empowered to make clarifications as needed to the NRHA Handbook, during day to day management, in instances where the rules are not clearly written or defined. Any changes under this provision will then be corrected in the manner outlined in the NRHA Handbook.

Section 5. After a rule has been changed and made effective, but contradictory or incomplete references still exist in the NRHA Handbook, the Executive Committee may approve for corrections to be made effective and updated on the current year's electronic version. The corrections will be included in the following year's NRHA Handbook.

13-02-18

Author's Intent: NRHA currently has the ability to refuse a show approval listing a Show Manager, Show Secretary, Show Representative or Show Steward who is suspended. However, if another member of the show management team is currently suspended, NRHA cannot make any effort to protect its members from what could be a harmful situation. This gives the Executive Committee the ability to review the situation and make a determination; it does not automatically impose a penalty for the individual or event. (NRHA Staff)

F. CAUSES FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION (PROTEST OF COMPLAINT NOT REQUIRED)

Section 5. Failure to Comply with Suspension. In the event a suspended member enters a horse as an owner, rider, agent or entity at any NRHA approved event during the suspension period, the NRHA will automatically impose an additional six (6) months of suspension, and all show prizes and awards will be forfeited to the NRHA as per the NRHA Handbook. **In the event a suspended member is found to be involved with the management or production of an NRHA approved event, the NRHA Executive Committee may impose additional suspension on that member. Additionally, show management's future show approvals may be denied.**

25-01-18

Author's Intent: To give members a full 12- or 36-month term of membership to use to compete, nominate, license or transfer horses. We propose that this change begins with the 2019 NRHA Handbook and memberships renewed or purchased in 2019. This would give us 2018 to notify renewing and new members of the term change, as well as allow time for programming changes. In regard to the Reiner magazine edit, not all memberships include a subscription. (NRHA Staff)

A. MEMBERSHIP

(a) Memberships: Beginning in 2019, NRHA memberships commence when the application and fees are received in the NRHA office. Annual **(12-month period)** and three-year **(36-month period)** memberships **expiration dates shall coincide with the purchased membership period and the commencement date** end December 31. Members will receive their first print issue of the NRHA Reiner **6-8 weeks after the membership is activated.** Memberships and **applicable NRHA Reiner** subscriptions are not retroactive. NRHA memberships and Non Pro Declarations that are submitted to NRHA with show results will be made **to commence on** effective the first date of the respective show.

27-01-18 (NOTE: Related topic to **28-01-18**)

Author's Intent: The intent is to refine the Non Pro definition to be more consistent with the spirit of the Non Pro Conditions. There are too many instances where a Non Pro status is called into question including but not limited to giving lessons, riding in sale videos and warming up horses for professionals. The Non Pro Status and Professionals Status are clear separations between where members are designated and intended to compete and the rules must clearly reflect this separation. (Non Pro Committee)

B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

(1) ELIGIBILITY:

(a) A Non Pro is defined as a person who, at the time of application, has not won more than \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) in Open reining competition (Categories 1, 2 and 6) and who has not received direct (money) or indirect (goods or services) remuneration for:

(1) Training or showing astride in any equine discipline. **Even without remuneration, a Non Pro may not train or prepare a horse not owned or leased by the non pro or the non pro's immediate family, at or for, a show. It is the intent of the NRHA to limit the ability of a non pro to assist a trainer or other person in the training or preparing of a horse for show if that horse is not owned or leased by the non pro or the non pro's immediate family.**

(2) Giving instruction (**lessons**) on showing or training or riding of a western performance horse (Reining, Cutting, Cow Horse). **The Non Pro cannot give instruction to anyone who is showing or has shown in NRHA, National Cutting Horse Association or National Reined Cow Horse Association approved shows, or in any Reining events of any chartered / organized equine association club or entity.**

(3) Sponsorships or endorsements unless approved by the Executive Committee due to celebrity status gained outside the reining industry.

(b) An ineligible person may obtain Non Pro status by meeting all Non Pro requirements for a period of three (3) years.

(1) During the ineligible time period, the member may show only in NRHA Open competition. **Non Pro ownership rules apply.**

(2) After obtaining Non Pro status, the member is eligible for any **Non Pro** classes based on his/her current eligibility.

(c) Non Pro Relinquishment: ...

(3) SHOWING:

(a) Ownership: A horse shown in ~~Non Pro~~ NRHA competition must be solely and completely owned by one of the following:

(1) the Non Pro

(2) Member(s) of the Non Pro's immediate family

(3) A corporation, partnership, or other business entity provided that the Non Pro and/or members of his/her immediate family are the sole owners of that business entity and the ownership of that business entity does not change to include non-immediate family members or entities. Ownership will be evidenced by the competition license. See the Competition Licensing section of the Handbook.

(4) It is a violation of Non Pro rules for a Non Pro to show a horse in NRHA competition not owned or leased by the Non Pro or Non Pro's immediate family.

28-01-18 (NOTE: Related topic to **27-01-18**)

Author's Intent: There seems to be confusion among the Membership regarding a Non Pro showing a horse (which is not owned by themselves or an immediate family member) in the open class, if they are paying the bill. With the addition of the ability to lease a horse, there really isn't a need for a Non Pro to show a horse outside of the Non Pro Ownership Conditions. Therefore, the Handbooks should be cleaned up to state that a Non Pro Conditions apply to Non Pro's no matter the class they show in.

Option: If Competitor would like to show a horse prior to purchasing said horse. The owner and rider could petition the NRHA to allow them to show in an Open class. NRHA would need to issue them a letter that they present to the Show Secretary. (Laura Henderson)

B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

(3) SHOWING:

(a) Ownership: A horse shown **by a Non Pro** in **all levels of Non Pro** competition must be solely and completely owned by one of the following:

35-01-18

Author's Intent: This will allow NRHA to recognize and record earnings of riders and horses competing in various Para-Reining events and will support other organizations' efforts in growing these classes. This also eliminates the need to formally adopt other rules into our existing Para-Reining Show Conditions (page 53), but still gives NRHA the ability to encourage the development of Para-Reining. NRHA awards could be purchased for these classes and the NRHA 5% fee would apply like other Category 4 classes. (Jennifer Hoyt)

D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

CATEGORY 4

(NRHA approved Breed Restricted classes (excluding aged shows) restricted by breed or Para-Reining classes. NRHA rules to apply. **World Para-Reining (WPR) rules concerning grades and patterns apply for Para-Reining classes.** ~~but not~~ Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards. Requires a NRHA Professionals, Non Pro, Youth or Youth Non Pro membership in order to show.

Jr. Reining Sr. Reining All Age Reining Amateur Reining
Youth Reining Open Reining Non Pro Reining

Any WPR, USA Reining or approved breed restricted para-reining class

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F. GENERAL SHOW CONDITIONS

(2) All exhibitors and owners/co-owners must be current NRHA members **in good standing**. The only exemption is for Category **4 and** 10 horse owners.

39-01-18

Author's Intent: This Category 13 class would need to be pre-approved. Results would need to be submitted, along with the NRHA 5%. The event would need to pay out the placings as it would with any other class. (NRHA Staff)

D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

Category 13

Approved incentive earnings awarded in conjunction with an NRHA approved class. Not for rider/horse eligibility, Top 20 Program, World Champion, Top Ten awards or Million Dollar recognition. Requires an NRHA Professional, Non Pro, Youth, Youth Non Pro, Associate, Associate Youth or Associate Non Pro membership in order to show.

41-01-18 (NOTE: Related topic to **41-02-18**)

Author's Intent: A 90-day deadline is very long and difficult for affiliate clubs to meet. With all that has to be decided, booked and managed for each show, affiliates consistently run right up to the deadline on this and risk not having the show approved for Top-10 purposes. This happened this year to us (NERHA) and 2 other affiliates in our area and negatively affects our members running for world titles. Additionally, one of the largest expenses of show is the cost of the trophies and they have to be paid with the show approval form and further we don't receive the trophies until the week before the show. NRHA is also using affiliate money for a long period of time which is unfair. (Darlene Deptula)

G. EVENT APPROVAL

(3) Official NRHA event approval forms must be submitted to the NRHA office by the deadline as follows:

Level of Event	Event Approval deadline
AA, A, BB, & Top Ten Events	Not less than ninety (90) days prior to the entry closing date
B, BB & Top Ten Events	Not less than sixty (60) forty-five (45) days prior to the entry closing date
C & D	Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the entry closing date

41-02-18 (NOTE: Related topic to **41-01-18**)

Author's Intent: With smaller events, a deadline being the first day of the show is more practical for both the show secretary and the NRHA office. Moving the sentence helps clarify that the late fee refers to the event approval from deadline, not changes. (NRHA Staff)

G. EVENT APPROVAL

(3) Official NRHA event approval forms must be submitted to the NRHA office by the deadline as follows:

Level of Event	Event Approval deadline
AA, A, BB, & Top Ten Events	Not less than ninety (90) days prior to the entry closing date
B	Not less than sixty (60) days prior to the entry closing date
C & D	Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the first day of the show entry closing date

Any changes made to information on a submitted event approval form must be done in a timely manner. It is at the NRHA's discretion as to whether the changes can be accepted. **Any event approval form received in the NRHA office after the required deadline, or a form that is not completed in full, may be subject to a \$100 late fee.** Any changes to added money, entry fees, or retainage fees for classes that count toward NRHA Top Ten standings must be submitted 90 days prior to the event's entry closing date. ~~Any event approval form received in the NRHA office after the required deadline, or a form that is not completed in full, may be subject to a \$100 late fee.~~

42-01-18

Author's Intent: Affiliate Clubs are having a hard time producing good show and continuing to "stay afloat." Sponsors and donations are difficult to acquire. For small shows with 50 - 90 entries per day there is difficulty in getting three volunteers who are knowledgeable and can make the commitment to be at the show continuously and perform the necessary tasks. Trainers are generally too busy and many non pros are not informed enough to perform the tasks. We are requesting that a Show Secretary and a Show/manager/ representative (two people) be responsible to accomplish the necessary tasks at the B, C, and D shows.

Suggest:

1. The affiliate shows be required to have an official approved show secretary
2. Affiliate shows should be required to have one manager/rep – as having two people (both a manager and a show rep) is a strain on the financials and the volunteer pool of people (B, C and D events)

(Darlyne Woodward)

(8) EVENT CLASSIFICATIONS:

All events must have a Show Secretary, Show Manager, and Show Representative, and they must be three separate individuals unless otherwise noted. **(Level B, C and D events must have a Show Manager/Representative and a Show Secretary. They must be two separate individuals.)**

42-02-18

Author's Intent: Too many horse shows are being planned without regard to the financial strain it is putting on NRHA affiliates. Neighboring affiliates and independent factions are submitting show approvals for shows within a week or even the same week of each other's shows. This puts a negative impact on both entities. By mandating a more stringent schedule that separates NRHA top ten approved shows by not only distance but by time it will produce a better financial outcome for all parties involved and will help to stabilize our NRHA affiliates. If show approvals for the same region where this rule would apply were to arrive in the NRHA office the same day, the decision should be made by whatever show has the longest established show per the NRHA show department. For shows that currently fall under this scenario, again, the show with the longest established show per NRHA show department would be awarded the weekend. (Kevin McCall)

(5) **All NRHA approved events within a 350-mile radius must be held minimally 14 days apart.** ~~Only one Ancillary event offering a Lawson Trophy reining may be held within 350 miles (550 kilometers) on the same day.~~

42-03-18

Author's Intent: To prevent prestige shows from hiring the same judges year after year and encourage show management to extend the pool of judges used. (Francesca Sternberg)

Add: (8) No judge to judge the same show in two consecutive years – at shows with \$5,000 or more in prize money.

50-01-18

Author's Intent: To give Category 7 classes (NRHA Approved Affiliate Championship classes) the ability to offer more money on regional and continental levels. Since these do not count toward World Champion or Top Ten standings, removing the cap gives management the ability to offer larger purses. This, in turn, gives members an opportunity to earn more money at these regional events. Attending these events requires a sizeable investment of funds and time away from home and work. This change will hopefully lead to a better reward for members and contribute to stronger events. (NRHA Staff)

H. ANCILLARY SHOW CONDITIONS

(9) Category 7 classes are exempt from H. Ancillary Show Conditions. (4). Added Money.

51-01-18

Author's Intent: This is a proposal for an alternative and optional class design that works more harmoniously with eligibility. This would be a structure that show management could choose to use for Category 2 and 6 shows. It will encourage participation at all levels by paying higher at the top, higher at the bottom and a higher number of exhibitors. This also simplifies class structure for show management. (Jesse Chase)

ADVANTAGES TO THE SINGLE PURSE STRUCTURE

- Sponsorship appeal of advertising one big added money class
- Show management does not need to decide how to break money up into separate divisions
- Pays more people
- Pays higher at the top
- Pays higher at the bottom
- Each entry gets paid the appropriate amount of money for the performance they gave
- Eligibility can't be used to make more money. It only acts as a safety net.
- Specialty classes such as prime time or maturities can be easily added as single classes and use this system to promote fair play.

STRUCTURE

In traditional structure, an aged event offers classes with added money based on divisions. These are separate classes that are typically run concurrently. Riders can, and often are required to, enter more than one of the classes. Their eligibility determines what classes from which they are excluded.

In this new optional structure, all of the added money would be combined into one purse, and all entries into one class. Every entry pays the same entry fee and everyone competes against all of the other entries for the highest score. This makes the money equally available for everyone to compete for.

Add the following to the existing AGED SHOW AND CLOSED AGED SHOW CONDITIONS:

- (5) Show management may use the Single Purse Structure for an aged show.
- (a) **Eligibility.** Any level rider can enter the class. Eligibility only helps determine the payout tier(s) a rider can earn a paycheck. (This is not a system with separate classes to running concurrently and paying separate purses. It is one class with one purse.)
- (b) **Payout.** Using a formula and pay schedule, four tiers of payouts are created within the complete placing of the class, all entries. A rider's eligibility determines the tier in which he/she is eligible to win a paycheck. Any level rider can win the class, or place in a tier above his/her ranking. Rider's are eliminated from the placings (or tiers) based on their eligibility. In other words, a rider cannot win money in a tier below his/her level of eligibility. As shown below, level 4 riders will need to place in the top of the class in order to get a check. Level 1 riders will be eligible for any of the pay spots.

Example: A Single Purse class with 25 entries:

- 1st.
- 2nd.
- 3rd. _____ Level 4 Tier: 1st-3rd place. L1 – L4 riders can win money in this tier.)
- 4th.
- 5th.
- 6th. _____ Level 3 Tier: 1st-6th place. L1 – L3 riders can win money in this tier.)
- 7th.
- 8th.
- 9th. _____ Level 2 Tier: 1st-9th place. L1 and L2 riders can win money in this tier.)
- 10th.
- 11th.
- 12th. _____ Level 1 Tier: 1st – 12th place. L1 riders can won money in this tier.)

(Staff note for proposal: See Appendix A for more examples. Available online.)

(c) **Tier Calculation.**

- (i) Determine the total number of entries.
- (ii) Determine the total number of placings based on total entries using the placing scale.
- (iii) Determine the total number of level 1 entries.
- (iv) Determine if Level 1 riders are more or less than 25% of the total entries.
- (v) If the number of Level 1 riders is less than 25%:
 - (A) Use the placing scale to determine the number of spots for the level one tier based on level one entries.
 - (B) Divide the remaining pay spots equally among the other three tiers.
 - (C) If equal spots are not possible, the remaining spots will be allocated one at a time starting with tier 4 and working in descending order.
- (vi) If the number of Level 1 riders is more than 25%:
 - (A) Divide the total number of pay spots equally among the 4 tiers.
 - (B) If equal spots are not possible the remaining spots will be allocated one at a time starting with tier 4 and working in descending order.

(d) **Awards.** The Level 4 champion will be the rider with the highest score. The level 3 champion will be the next highest score that is not a level 4 rider. The level 2 champion is the next highest score that is not a level 3 or 4 rider. The level 1 champion is the highest placing level 1 rider that has not already been named champion of another level.

(e) **Standard Ties.** In the event that there is a tie in the placings, other than for 1st or a level championship, the money associated with those placings will be added together and split equally between the tying riders. (See Show Rules and Regulations, O. Ties. (7)). When two or more equally ranked riders tie for level champion, they may choose to have a run-off to determine a winner or elect to be co-champions.

(f) **Other Ties.** Certain situations require that ties be broken.

- (i) For a tie that must be broken, the higher ranked riders with the same score as the lower ranked riders will be awarded the higher placing.
- (ii) When riders of different ranks tie to be a level champion, the win will go to the higher ranked rider. The lower ranked rider will then be named champion of the next level down.
- (iii) In the event that there is a tie that crosses the tier levels that involves higher ranked riders than there are higher tier spots, it is determined that tie must be broken. Again, the tie goes to the higher ranked riders and they split the money available in the fewer corresponding spots in their tier. The lower ranked rider/riders take the full spots below those.

53-01-18

Author's Intent: The cost of trophies and plaques is one of the largest expenses of each show. The cost of trophies from NRHA continues to increase, the quality has gone down and the shipping costs are very expensive. Where ever possible to help reduce show costs members will graciously donate plaques and trophies which we will recycle. We think it's fair that affiliates be allowed to deduct the full value of the trophy or plaque even if it is donated/recycled. (Darlene Deptula)

N. TROPHIES & AWARDS

(1) Shows may award official NRHA trophies or plaques in designated classes. Trophies and awards may be purchased from NRHA at the published prices, plus tax and shipping. If a show does not offer NRHA awards, class winners may purchase the official trophy from NRHA. ~~Only the costs for official NRHA trophies can be deducted from payouts.~~

53-02-18

Author's Intent: To require shows that meet requirements, including the minimum of \$2,000 added, to present a Lawson Bronze to the champion of the class. (Professionals Committee)

Proposed Change:

The Lawson Bronze must be presented when \$2,000 or more in added money is offered and other special Lawson Bronze qualifications are met.

54-01-18

Author's Intent: This will give the NRHA office the ability to take these show documents via electronic means. Show management will be able to scan the documents and send electronically versus having to mail originals to Oklahoma City. In the case there is a protest, we believe it would be wise for show management to keep the original judges score cards on file along with the results and entry forms as they currently do today. (NRHA Staff)

P. SHOW RESULTS

(1) Show management is required to send official show documents (results, original-judge's score cards, membership applications, competition licenses, transfers, non pro declarations, fees, and other NRHA forms)... Show management will also maintain copies of the results, **original judge's score cards** and official show entry forms for at least twelve (12) months. Prior to sending the documents to the NRHA office, the original judge's **score cards sheets** must remain in the show secretary's custody...

54-02-18

Author's Intent: To establish a reasonable timeframe and expectation for both exhibitors and show management. If a tied exhibitor does not appear within the timeframe, show management can have clear direction that a run-off cannot be held. (Professionals Committee)

O. TIES

(1) All ties for first place...

(a) In the case of a tie, the exhibitors shall be at the gate by the completion of the class to notify show management if they wish to run-off or remain co-champions. Failure to be present by the completion of the class will result in forfeiture of first place.

(b) If the riders decide to have a run-off both riders must be present, with their horse, and ready to enter the pen within a maximum of ten minutes after the last horse in the classes exits the pen. If one or both of the horses involved in the tie competed within the last five runs of the class, it will be up to the judge's discretion on the amount of time the rider has before competing in the run-off.

(Staff note: We would also need permission to update a related reference on page 79, (B) SCORING (2))

72-01-18

Author's Intent: To approve that at any time a rider is allowed to hold the saddle horse, the rider also is allowed to touch the horse with the free hand. This refers to the Freestyle Reining and Short Stirrup specifically. At any other time, touching the horse with the free hand would result in a 5-point penalty. Sections from the Handbook are presented above, but we also ask for approval to update any other contradictory instances that may come to light after the change is approved. (NRHA Staff)

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FREESTYLE REINING. B. Judging of Freestyle Reining

(6) All five (5) point penalties may apply except holding the saddle or saddle horn with either hand or touching the horse with the freehand, which is are allowed.

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RULES FOR JUDGING. B. SCORING.

(8) The following will result in a penalty of five (5) points:

(a) spurring in front of the cinch;

(b) use of either hand to instill fear or praise;

(c) holding saddle with either hand, except in the **Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class** where holding the saddle is allowed;

(d) blatant disobedience including kicking, biting, bucking, rearing and striking;

(e) touching the horse with the free hand, except in the Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class where this is allowed

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JUDGES' GUIDE. 5 POINT PENALTIES.

Section 1. There are ~~four~~ **five** situations that require a judge to apply a five (5) point penalty.

These situations are: spurring in front of the cinch, use of either hand to instill fear or praise, holding the saddle with either hand (except in the **Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class**), **touching the horse with the free hand (except in the Freestyle Reining or Youth 10 & Under Short Stirrup class)**, or blatant disobedience...

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JUDGES' GUIDE. FREESTYLE REINING. B. Scoring Penalties. (4) Penalty Application and Scoring.

(d) All five (5) point penalties apply in Freestyle except holding the saddle or touching the horse with the free hand...

78-01-18

Author's Intent: This current rule leaves too many backdoors open and therefor costs membership and participation to NRHA, and deprives NRHA members opportunities to show and/or qualify for regional or affiliate championships. There are e.g. "regional" IRHA (the Italian NRHA affiliate) reining shows which are supposedly under the governance of the FISE (the Italian national federation, from which IRHA is a mandatory member by Italian law) with up to \$40,000 added money. The same principle holds true for e.g. Germany. This is a travesty of the intent of the rule. Therefore, I propose following change.

This way this backdoor is closed. Organizers which want to pay out big purses have to have their shows approved by either NRHA, FEI or a breed association affiliate in order to use existing and current NRHA judges. Result will be that thousands of Germans, Italians and others around the world will have to become NRHA members, and participate in NRHA events if they want to show for big purses. Furthermore, it will create a more fair playing field because if all those big purses are NRHA approved, and recorded, thousands of dollars won will count for each rider's and horse's earnings, just like in other countries where all reinings are NRHA approved, and everybody around the world will be held to the same standard of competition. (Jan Boogaerts)

D. GUIDELINES

(10) NRHA judges who judge unapproved reining classes will be subject to an Investigative Judge Review. The following exceptions exist where judge(s) may judge unapproved reining classes:

- (a) classes that do not coincide with NRHA classes and therefore cannot be approved by NRHA
- (b) beginner or green classes
- (c) affiliate level classes that are held concurrent with NRHA approved classes **and added money can not exceed 10% of the added money of the NRHA approved class**
- (d) ~~shows with less than \$500-added money classes with less than \$100-added money~~
- (e) breed association classes [Jr., Sr., Amateur, and Youth breed classes]
- (f) ~~National Federation or FEI events~~
- (g) shows held by an NRHA breed association affiliate and/or affiliated discipline association

This way this backdoor is closed. Organizers which want to pay out big purses have to have their shows approved by either NRHA, FEI or a breed association affiliate in order to use existing and current NRHA judges. Result will be that thousands of Germans, Italians and others around the world will have to become NRHA members, and participate in NRHA events if they want to show for big purses. Furthermore, it will create a more fair playing field because if all those big purses are NRHA approved, and recorded, thousands of dollars won will count for each rider's and horse's earnings, just like in other countries where all reinings are NRHA approved, and everybody around the world will be held to the same standard of competition.

81-01-18

Author's Intent: To allow all riders the ability to use a blue tooth headset or other electronic devices in order to provide a better experience for them while showing. (Professionals Committee)

B. Scoring

(3) Equipment

(4) The following will result in no score:

- (m) ~~use of Bluetooth headsets or electronic devices, excluding para-reining~~

82-01-18

Author's Intent: Currently we are seeing large classes with a very limited percentage of the competitors actually showing to compete. This has led to:

- loss of spectators - poor image to outside public & other disciplines
- poor & negative presentation on live streaming - excessively long show days
- excessive hours for judges

I was told by a sponsor at a show not long ago he no longer offers the livestream to the public at his business as he felt it put a negative image out with certain classes. Shows currently offer ample opportunity for competitors to school and prepare their horses prior to the NRHA classes. i.e. green horse, any horse/any rider and paid warm ups. So when riders are competing in a NRHA class they should ride accordingly. We do not see this in other disciplines. It is time to put the "show" back into "horse show." From a personal experience, many of our clients do not enter certain classes or stay away from certain shows due to this issue. (Dave R. Young)

B. Scoring

(7) The following will result in a score of zero (0):

- (p) When a rider uses his free hand (second hand) on the reins [except in classes that permit the use of two (2) hands] while showing will be immediately asked to leave the arena and receive a score of zero (0). Failure to follow to stop and leave the arena when asked will result in a "no score" (showing disrespect or misconduct by exhibitor).**

(Staff note: Also add to page 124 – JUDGES GUIDE. PENALTY SCORE ZERO)

122-01-18

Author's Intent: To allow small/weekend events to have appropriate bit checks without the added cost of an additional judge. (Judges Committee)

PRE/POST CHECK

Section 3

(e) In all NRHA approved classes with added monies of \$500 or below, a random equipment check by the chair judge is permitted. It is recommended at least 3 horses in each class are checked, selected by the chair judge when each horse is finished with the pattern. Any horse, at any time may be stopped by the chair judge in the event of abuse or unsafe conditions.

126-01-18

Author's Intent: Judges have no clear instruction of handling a horse that might have a loss in forward (or reverse) motion. If a horse lays down during a performance (not falls) it is a clear sign of disobedience, intimidation, exhaustion, fear or sickness. Officials need to know how to handle this situation. There should be a maneuver reduction and a 5-point penalty assessed. (Terry Thompson)

This is an addition to the rules concerning 5 point penalties.

Proposed Change:

5 Point Penalty

Loss of motion, forward or reverse.

When a horse falls to his/her knees or hocks out of a normal upright position. Showing signs of disobedience (i.e. intimidation, exhaustion and/or distress)

(Staff note: Would need to make an addition to page 83 as well. Possibly add as (8)(e).)

06-01-18

Author's Intent: This helps clearly state that an NAA can prohibit a member from attending or competing in events hosted by the NAA. This may be a separate action from an official NRHA disciplinary action. (NRHA Staff)

Section 3. In support of the International Affiliate Program, NRHA will agree to the following:

Add a new item (e):

(e) The NAA may take other action such as prohibiting the member from attending or competing in events hosted by the NAA, provided that such action is handled in accordance with the NAA's bylaws.

Move down and renumber current (e) and (f).

06-02-18

Author's Intent: Update to reflect bylaws approved in 2016. (NRHA Staff)

D. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Section 1. NRHA membership carries responsibilities as well as certain rights. Any member may be disciplined, fined, or have his/her membership revoked or suspended for good cause. The Executive Committee may deny membership when it, in its sole discretion, establishes that a non-member is not a worthy candidate. See NRHA Bylaws. ~~Article II. Membership.~~

Additionally, staff proposes to be granted the ability to update any other out-of-date bylaw references found during the process of updating the Handbook.

25-02-18

Author's Intent: The first change better explains the purpose of the General membership and current practice. The second and third changes support current practices and allowances. (NRHA Staff)

A. MEMBERSHIP

Membership Categories:

General: A non-competing membership for an individual or business entity **who does not wish to compete as a rider**. This includes horse owners and breeders who wish to complete nominations and/or licenses for their horses and to participate in other NRHA programs. General members have full NRHA rights, responsibilities and voting privileges.

Associate, Associate Non Pro, and Associate Youth: An Associate membership is for individuals who wish to show or enter horses in Category 10 (entry level) **and/or Para-Reining** classes only. An associate membership does not include the right to vote, nominate, or officiate, nor does it include an *NRHA Reiner* print subscription. However, access to the *NRHA Reiner* magazine digital edition is free at nrha.com.

To license, transfer or lease a horse, the individual or business entity must be a member in good standing with NRHA. Any of the above listed memberships meet this requirement.

27-02-18

Author's Intent: To better explain the Non Pro relinquishment process and to provide a more specific and understandable timeline. (NRHA Staff)

B. NON PRO MEMBERSHIP CONDITIONS

(1) ELIGIBILITY:

(a) A Non Pro is defined as a person who, at the time of application, has not won more than \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars)...

(c) Non Pro Relinquishment: A Non Pro who gives up his/her Non Pro status to become an NRHA Professional **member rider** must complete and submit the Non Pro Relinquishment form within 30 days of **becoming an NRHA Professional or a professional trainer. When the form is received, NRHA may back out the applicable previous earnings** the change. **The** Non Pro earnings in any category/class will not be utilized in determining current eligibility, with the exception of the Category 2 or 6 Level 1 Open and Rookie Professional class.

29-01-18

Author's Intent: To further clarify points relating to leases as outlined on the NRHA Lease Application and FAQ Document found on nrha.com. (NRHA Staff)

Page 29 (Non Pro leases)

(f) Leases: A leased horse may be shown in Non Pro competition under the following guidelines:

...

(5) Only one lease at a time per horse **per year** will be recognized.

(6) The lessor may not show the horse during the term of the lease.

(7) Lessor must be a current NRHA member in good standing. An Associate membership is acceptable.

(8) During the term of the lease, all points and/or monies earned will be credited to the lessee.

Page 65 (Youth leases)

(4) Leases: A leased horse may be shown in Non Pro competition under the following guidelines:

...

(5) Only one lease at a time per horse **per year** will be recognized.

(6) The lessor may not show the horse during the term of the lease.

(7) Lessor must be a current NRHA member in good standing. An Associate membership is acceptable.

(8) During the term of the lease, all points and/or monies earned will be credited to the lessee.

32-01-18

Author's Intent: *Since NRHA rules should apply to all categories of competition, we recommend removing redundant notes and adding a note of it in the opening section of CATEGORIES OR COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY. Additionally, we propose to add a note to those categories not currently listed as not being for world title or top ten awards. This is not a change to long-time practice, but the addition of a note to make it more clear to members. The changes to Category 10 are only a change in terminology. (NRHA Staff)*

D. CATEGORIES OF COMPETITION AND CLASS ELIGIBILITY

Class Eligibility for the current year for horses and riders are based on NRHA... When a suspended exhibitor is reinstated as an NRHA member in good standing, his/her eligibility will resume at the level held prior to suspension. Anyone showing in NRHA approved competition is subject to **NRHA rules including those in** Section F. General Show Conditions as outlined in this NRHA Handbook. Current eligibility requirements...

CATEGORY 2

NRHA Approved Aged Shows (Futurity, Derby and other approved Aged Shows; see G. Aged Show Conditions. **Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards.** ...

CATEGORY 4

NRHA approved Breed Restricted classes (excluding aged shows) restricted by breed. ~~NRHA rules to apply, but a~~ **Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards.** ...

CATEGORY 5

NRHA approved Ancillary classes, ~~NRHA rules to apply, but a~~ **Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards...**

CATEGORY 7

NRHA Approved Affiliate Championship classes; requires qualification through the NRHA Affiliate Championship program to enter. **Not for NRHA World Champion and Top Ten awards.** ...

CATEGORY 10

Entry Level Ride & Slide Non Pro Level 2
Entry Level Ride & Slide Non Pro Level 1
Green Reiner Level 1
Green Reiner Level 2

General **members** Riders must obtain Non Pro status...
General **members** Riders must obtain Non Pro status...
General **members** Riders must obtain Non Pro status...
General **members** Riders must obtain Non Pro status...

66-01-18

Author's Intent: Moving the existing language will make it easier to see the requirements without having to move to another location in the Handbook. Existing memberships and competition licenses are necessary to record earnings, so we hope to make this more clear, as well as giving the Associate membership as an option. (NRHA Staff)

Move NATIONAL FEDERATION section (currently on page 66) to directly after CATEGORY 8. NGB & FEI COMPETITIONS (page 37).

Current wording from page 37 (minor change tracked):

CATEGORY 8

NGB & FEI COMPETITIONS

NGB-National Governing Body, FEI-Federation Equestre Internationale; to include recognized and/or approved events such as World Equestrian Games, Pan Am Games, CRIs-Concours de Reining International, CRIOs-Concours de Reining Internationale Official, etc. (See ~~National Federation~~ **below** for more guidelines.)

Approved Category 8

Events that are run concurrently with NRHA classes and seek NRHA approval. Ex: CRI classes that are run concurrently with NRHA Open

Recognized Category 8

Events that are run separately from NRHA classes or events but seek NRHA approval. Ex: FEI World Equestrian Games

Add this language directly below (from page 66) (A few minor were made to flow better into the new location. Those changes are tracked):

~~NATIONAL FEDERATION~~

~~A. Category 8 National Federation Approval **Requirements:**~~

~~(1) The National Reining Horse Association wishes to promote the sport of reining with the approval of FEI/National Federation reining events.~~

~~(a) Owners and riders competing in NRHA/NF Dual Approved competition will be required to be members in good standing of the NRHA.~~

~~(b) An event must declare its intent to seek approval or recognition to the NRHA by supplying to NRHA the completed Show Approval Form and following the same guidelines as regular NRHA Events. See Show Rules and Regulations.~~

~~(c) The NRHA Executive Committee will may examine the merits of events requesting approval or recognition. See Show Rules and Regulations.~~

~~(d) Monies earned in Approved or Recognized Events will count towards NRHA Lifetime Earnings.~~

75-01-18

Author's Intent: This updates the rules to match current NRHA Bylaws which outline committee approvals. Additionally, we ask that the last two sentences be added to the Judges Committee purpose found in Board Resolution #08-16 - 2017-2018 Advisory Committees. (NRHA Staff)

B. JUDGES COMMITTEE

(1) The NRHA Board of Directors may establish a Judges Committee and its purposes as provided for in the NRHA Bylaws. ~~President will appoint a Judges Committee Chairperson. The Chairperson will then appoint the committee members. It shall be the duty of the Judges Committee to administer judges' tests, conduct seminars, may review any and all judging after NRHA sponsored events or approved events, and review judging performances on recommendation of show representatives or by official protest. The Committee shall be empowered to take all action necessary to improve the quality, integrity and performance of the judging system.~~

84-01-18

Author's Intent: This change will match the 2 Point Penalty Review that was previously approved and became effective in 2016. (NRHA Staff)

Pg. 84

(16) Judges may not confer on any penalty or maneuver score prior to submitting a score. If a major penalty (a penalty which results in a no score, a zero (0), **a two (2) point**, or a five (5) point penalty) is unclear, a judge will submit his/her score and ask that the score be held... all entries have been videotaped. **Refer to the Handbook's Event Classifications section to determine when judges are allowed to review 2-point penalties.**

Pg. 129 - REVIEWS

Section 1. If the judge is unsure as to whether a major penalty has occurred (i.e., no score, a 0 score, **a 2-point penalty**, or a 5-point penalty) the judge will submit his/her score... each judge's decision is an individual call. **Refer to the Handbook's Event Classifications section to determine when judges are allowed to review 2-point penalties.**

114-01-18

Author's Intent: This will help avoid confusion when other patterns are added. Using this scenario, the Short Stirrup pattern names will not be changed every time a new standard pattern is added. (NRHA Staff)

Change all references to Short Stirrup Patterns from numbers to letters:

Pattern 14 to Pattern A

Pattern 15 to Pattern B

124-01-18

Author's Intent: To update the Judges' Guide to match current rules. (NRHA Staff)

PENALTY SCORE ZERO

Section 1. The NRHA Handbook specifies certain situations in which a horse will receive a score of 0 regardless of its execution of the pattern... The NRHA Handbook prohibits the use of more than the index finger between the reins, the changing of hands on the reins, or use of two hands on the reins; however, it specifically outlines situations in which the rider's free hand may be used to untangle excess rein (~~any place the horse is allowed to be completely stopped during the pattern~~). (See "Rules for Judging" B.(5))..

Section 2. When using a romal, the rider's hand shall be around the reins with the wrist kept straight and relaxed, the thumb on top and the hand closed around the reins; no fingers between the reins are allowed... Consistent with NRHA rules regarding split reins, a rider using a romal may untangle excess rein (romal) **anytime during the pattern, provided the rider's free hand remains behind the rein hand.** ~~any place a horse is allowed to be completely stopped during the pattern.~~

126-02-18

Author's Intent: To eliminate any confusion regarding on when simple lead changes are allowed. (NRHA Staff)

JUDGES' GUIDE. 2 POINT PENALTIES

Section 1. A judge is required to apply a two (2) point penalty should a horse break gait..... on requirements. **Note: Simple lead changes are allowed in NRHA Green classes; no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead change. NRHA Ride & Slide Level 1 classes may use altered patterns and if simple lead changes are specified, no break of gait penalty should be applied during the lead changes.**

154-01-18

Author's Intent: Ease the understanding of out of lead penalties on a run-around. (NRHA Staff)

Add labels to Figure #6 to better describe the following:

LEAD PENALTIES (pg. 127)

Section 3. In the instance where a pattern requires a 1/2 circle prior to beginning a run down to the other end of the arena (i.e., patterns #2 & 4), failure to be on a specified lead should be penalized as follows:

- (a) 1 point: beyond one stride up to 1/4 circumference of circle
- (b) 2 points: beyond 1/4 circumference of circle up to the entire half circle. (See Figure #6.)

Proposed additions shown in red on Figure #6

Figure #6 - Out of Lead on Run-around

